

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

DOV-102.003 (01)

On May 5, 2000, UTM [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. _____) exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: 5/17/00

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): NHTSA-00E-019, CMI-00-01

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

UTILITY TRAILER MANUFACTURING COMPANY

17295 E. Railroad Street

City of Industry, CA 91748

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

SAL MOLINA, Field Service Department Manager

Telephone Number: 626-854-7215 Fax No.: 626-965-5660

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Grace Garcia

Field Service Coordinator

Signed: Grace Garcia

¹Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Utility Model Years Involved: 1999-2000 Model(s): VS2R/VS2D

Production Dates: Beginning: 8/98 Ending: 3/00

VIN Range: Beginning: 1U4YS2539KM593201 Ending: 1U4YS25351P379425

Vehicle Type: Trailer Bodystyle: Van-Refrigerated/Dry Freight

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Vehicles equipped with PreGreased trailer hubs and a tire inflation system.

Make(s): _____ Model Years Involved: _____ Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): _____ Model Years Involved: _____ Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

100%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
VS2R/VS2D	8/98 - 3/00	271

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 271

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined—in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

The dates of first and last production of PreGreased trailer hubs:

1. Supplier identified quantity of systems sold to Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company.
2. Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company verified its records by selected options for system.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

The outboard bearing on PreGreased trailer axle hubs used with tire inflation systems may fail due to the intrusion of contaminants through the tire inflation system. An outboard bearing failure can result in a separation of the hub assembly from the spindle.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Identified as contaminants entering the hub through tire inflation system components.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

The outboard bearing on PreGreased trailer axle hubs used with tire inflation systems may fail due to the intrusion of contaminants through the tire inflation system. An outboard bearing failure can result in a separation of the hub assembly from the spindle.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

Evidence of contamination or corrosion.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

CONSOLIDATED METCO, INC.

P.O. Box 83201

Portland, OR 97283-0201

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Robert Edstrom - V.P. Engineering

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

Third quarter 1999, three reports were received of outboard trailer axle bearing failures at one fleet. An investigation was undertaken to identify the root cause of the problem. It was eventually identified as contaminants entering the hub through tire inflation system components. This fleet was instructed to convert PreGreased hubs to oil bath hubs to be able to monitor the level and quality of lubrication through an external sight window. Three other instances of this failure mode have been recorded; 2 of which were at the same fleet noted above.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Convert greased hubs to oil hub if the tire inflation system is to remain on the trailer. If the tire inflation system is removed, the hub must be inspected for contamination and corrosion. The hub and bearing assembly must be replaced if there is evidence of corrosion. If there is no evidence of corrosion, lubricant and seal maintenance can be performed and the hub reinstalled.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

See #8

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

Discontinued, March 2000

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Customer notification will be by first class mail using CONSOLIDATED METCO
and Utility sales records to determine the customers potentially affected on
or before 6/15/00. Notification will be completed by approximately 6/20/00.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7883) for review prior to mailing.*

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.